

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Clean Water Act. The Administrator has received an application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, NV0022845, from the following applicant:

Harrah's Operating Company, Inc.  
1023 Cherry Road  
Memphis, Tennessee 38117-5423

The Applicant operates a 2,677-room hotel and casino, Harrah's Las Vegas Hotel & Casino, at 3475 Las Vegas Boulevard South in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada. This facility includes a dewatering system, groundwater and stormwater, to prevent the South Roadway Tunnel from flooding. The dewatering system discharges to the Las Vegas Wash via the Clark County stormdrain system and the Flamingo Wash. The discharge flow will be permitted at a maximum rate of 0.072 million gallons per day, but the flow varies seasonally according to the area's water table level and precipitation events. Due to the presence of volatile organic compounds and petroleum hydrocarbons in the shallow groundwater and sediment in the stormwater, water recovered during dewatering of the tunnel must be pumped through a series of sediment filters and two activated carbon units for treatment prior to discharge. Monitoring of the discharge is conducted to ensure that surface waters are not degraded as a result of the tunnel dewatering discharge.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue a permit, NV0022845, to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance, or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the date of newspaper publication, postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on January 10, 2003, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
333 West Nye Lane  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Bruce Holmgren, Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9423 or at [bholmgre@ndep.nv.us](mailto:bholmgre@ndep.nv.us). The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684.